

OPINIONS AND DECLARATIONS RENDERED BY THE INTER- NATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

Edited by

FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

Secretary to the Commission

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DIRECTION 92

Correction of the entry relating to the generic name
Dermanyssus Dugès, 1834 (Class Arachnida, Order
Acarina) made on the *Official List of Generic Names in*
Zoology by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 104

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INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

COMPOSITION AT THE TIME OF THE ADOPTION OF THE RULING GIVEN IN DIRECTION 92

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DIRECTION 92

CORRECTION OF THE ENTRY RELATING TO THE
GENERIC NAME "DERMANYSSUS" DUGES, 1834
(CLASS ARACHNIDA, ORDER ACARINA) MADE ON
THE "OFFICIAL LIST OF GENERIC NAMES IN
ZOOLOGY" BY THE RULING GIVEN IN
"OPINION" 104

RULING :—(1) The under-mentioned revised entry relating to the generic name *Dermanyssus* Dugès, 1834 (Class Arachnida, Order Acarina) is hereby inserted in the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* in place of the entry regarding that name made on the above *List* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 104 :—

510 *Dermanyssus* Dugès, January 1834 (gender : masculine) (type species, by monotypy and through *Declaration* 21 : *Acarus gallinae* De Geer, 1778).

(2) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 1488 :—

gallinae De Geer, 1778, as published in the combination *Acarus gallinae* (specific name of type species of *Dermanyssus* Dugès, 1834).

(3) The under-mentioned specific name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 504 :—

avium Dugès, 1834, as published in the combination *Dermanyssus avium* (a junior objective synonym of *gallinae* De Geer, 1778, as published in the combination *Acarus gallinae* through the selection by Hemming) (in paragraph 9 of the paper reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Direction*) as the lectotype of *Dermanyssus avium* Dugès, 1834, of the specimen selected at the same time to be the lectotype of *Acarus gallinae* De Geer, 1778).

(4) The under-mentioned generic name is hereby placed on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* with the Name Number 1139 :—

Dermanissus Kolenati, [1856] (an Invalid Emendation of *Dermanyssus* Dugès, 1834).

I. THE SUBJECT MATTER OF THE PRESENT “ DIRECTION ”

The present *Direction* forms part of the concluding group of *Directions* embodying decisions clarifying, completing, or correcting entries made on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* in the period up to the end of 1936 taken by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in preparation for the publication of the foregoing *List* in book-form. The particular subject dealt with in this *Direction* is the entry relating to the generic name *Dermanyssus* Dugès, 1834 (Class Arachnida, Order Acarina) made on the *Official List* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 104 (1928, *Smithson. misc. Coll.* 73 (No. 5) : 25—28). The issues involved in the present case were placed before the Commission by the Secretary in the following paper on 4th October 1957 :—

**Proposed correction of the entry relating to the generic name
“ Dermanyssus ” Dugès, 1834 (Class Arachnida, Order Acarina)
made on the “ Official List of Generic Names in Zoology ” by
the Ruling given in “ Opinion ” 104**

By FRANCIS HEMMING, C.M.G., C.B.E.

(*Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature*)

The purpose of the present note is to submit proposals for the correction of the entry relating to the generic name *Dermanyssus* Dugès, 1834 (Class Arachnida, Order Acarina) made on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 104.

2. The point principally involved in this case is the determination of the species to be accepted as the type species of this genus, a question which, though vital in the present context, was not the subject of a clear Ruling in the *Opinion* cited above. As a start to the examination of this question it is necessary to take note of the precise entry made on the *Official List* in the above *Opinion*. This reads as follows :—

Dermanyssus Dugès, 1834, Ann. Sci. nat., 18 tsd. *gallinae* deGeer, 1778a, 111, pl. 6, fig. 8, syn. *avium*.

3. As in other similar cases, the question to be investigated first in the present instance was the place where the generic name *Dermanyssus* was first published, this being essential for the purpose of ascertaining what were the originally included species from which alone any subsequent author could validly select a type species for this genus.

4. This generic entity was first brought forward by Dugès when in 1833 he presented to the Academie des Sciences a paper entitled "Mémoire sur l'Ordre d'Acariens". An extract from this paper was published in October 1833 (*Institut* 1(24) : 207, col. 1), where, however, Dugès wrote of this genus only under the vernacular (French) name "Dermanysse". This paper is, therefore, of no significance from the nomenclatorial point of view.

4. The generic name *Dermanyssus* in duly Latinised form first appeared in January 1834 in the first part of a paper by Dugès, published in Volume 1 (page 18) of the Second Series of the Zoologie Section of the *Annales des Sciences naturelles* of Paris. Dugès returned to this subject in the second part of his paper in Volume 2 (pages 19 *et sequ.*) of the same Series, but this was not published until July 1834 and accordingly nothing written by Dugès in it can affect the status or interpretation of the name *Dermanyssus*, that being a matter which depends solely upon Dugès' treatment of this name six months earlier.

6. In the first part of his paper, published in January 1834, Dugès gave a diagnosis for this genus and cited five new nominal species as belonging to it. He gave no descriptions for these nominal species and at the time of the issue of this part of the paper all except one of the five names concerned were *nomina nuda*. Descriptions for these species were published in the second part of his paper which appeared in July 1834 but naturally this does not affect their status at the time of the publication of the name *Dermanyssus* in January of that year. The single nominal species validly established by Dugès in his paper of January 1834 was that which he called "*Dermanyssus avium, nobis*". The reason why, unlike the other new names introduced by Dugès in the above paper, the above name is not invalid is that Dugès cited under

it as synonyms the names of two previously established nominal species, thus providing his new name *avium* with an "indication" for the purposes of Article 25 of the *Règles* and so clothing it with the status of availability. The names so cited by Dugès were : (1) *Acarus gallinae* de Geer, 1778 (*Mém. Hist. Ins.* 7 : 111) ; (2) *Acarus hirundinis* Hermann (J.F.), 1804 (*Mém. apter.* : 83). The nominal species *Dermanyssus avium* Dugès, 1834, is thus a species based jointly upon the two previously established nominal species cited above.

7. Under a decision taken by the Thirteenth International Congress of Zoology, Paris, 1948 (1950, *Bull. zool. Nomencl.* 4 : 179—180) it is provided that, other things being equal, a nominal species, the name of which is cited as a synonym of a nominal species included in a genus established without a designated or indicated type species is itself to be accepted as an originally included species and, therefore, as eligible for selection by a later author to be the type species of the genus in question. Under this provision both *Acarus gallinae* de Geer and *Acarus hirundinis* Hermann would rank as included species of the genus *Dermanyssus* Dugès and, jointly with the nominal species *Dermanyssus avium* Dugès, would have been eligible for selection as the type species of the genus *Dermanyssus* Dugès, had it not been for the fact that another provision operates in this case to prevent this from happening. The provision in question is that prescribed by *Declaration 26* (*Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 13 : xxxvii—1), under which a nominal genus established without a designated type species and containing only one nominal species recognised by the author as being a valid taxonomic species is to be treated as being a monotypical genus in cases where in the synonymy given for the single species so recognised there are cited the names of previously established nominal species which, if it were not for this *Declaration*, would under the Paris decision quoted above have ranked as originally included species. In the present case the nominal species *Dermanyssus avium* Dugès was (apart from certain *nomina nuda* which do not enter in this matter) the sole nominal species recognised as a taxonomically valid species by Dugès when he established the nominal genus *Dermanyssus* in January 1834. Accordingly under the terms of *Declaration 26* the genus *Dermanyssus* Dugès is to be treated as having been established as a monotypical genus with *Dermanyssus avium* Dugès as type species. (This subject is re-examined from a different angle in paragraph 10 below.)

8. At this point it is necessary to take note that, as shown by the quotation given in paragraph 2 above, the Commission appears to have been uncertain as to what was the name which should be cited—whether *gallinae* or *avium*—as the name of the type species of the genus *Dermanyssus* Dugès, though it accepted the synonymisation of these names and treated *gallinae* as the name to be used for the taxonomic unit so recognised. It would not be profitable to speculate at this date as to what was the meaning which, in the entry concerned,

the Commission intended to convey. It will be sufficient to recall that the time has long since passed when it was considered appropriate to include subjective views as to the synonymy of specific names in entries made on the *Official List*. We may, therefore, leave this matter, after noting that a complete re-writing of the entry on the *Official List* in regard to this generic name will be required as part of the settlement of the present case.

9. As noted above, the Commission in its *Opinion* 104 indicated that at that time the nominal species *Acarus gallinae* De Geer, 1778, and *Dermanyssus avium*, 1834, were considered to represent the same nominal species. This view is still today the currently-held interpretation of these nominal species. Hitherto, however, this synonymisation has been subjective only, and so long as this remains so, there can be no place for the specific name *gallinae* de Geer in the revised Ruling to be given by the Commission. But this would not be the case if the existing subjective synonymisation of the above names could be converted to an objective basis, for in that event it would be possible to dispose of the name *avium* Dugès once and for all by placing it, as a junior objective synonym of *gallinae* de Geer, on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology*. Fortunately, this is possible, for, as has been shown in paragraph 6 above, the availability of the name *Dermanyssus avium* Dugès, January 1834 (: 18) rests in part upon the citation of *Acarus gallinae* de Geer in the synonymy of that nominal species at the time of its establishment in January 1834. Accordingly, the two nominal species could be made objectively identical with one another if a lectotype were to be selected for *Acarus gallinae* de Geer, 1778, and if the specimen so designated were then to be designated as the lectotype of *Dermanyssus avium* Dugès, 1834. I accordingly now (a) select the specimen shown by de Geer as figure 13 of plate 6 as *Acarus gallinae* de Geer in Volume 7 of the *Mém. Hist. Ins.* to be the lectotype of that nominal species and (b) select the above specimen to be also the lectotype of the nominal species *Dermanyssus avium* Dugès, 1834.* By this twofold action the specific names *avium* Dugès and *gallinae* de Geer become objective synonyms of one another and the current subjective synonymisation of these names is placed on an unassailable basis.

10. We have next to note that under *Declaration* 21 (1956, *Ops. Decls. int. Comm. zool. Nomencl.* 12 : i—viii) it is provided that, where one of two or more objectively identical nominal species is designated, indicated or selected as the type species of a genus, that genus shall be cited as having as its type species the oldest established of the nominal species concerned. In the present case, as we have seen, (1) the type

* It will be understood that as in previous similar cases the lectotype selections here made will technically become effective only when the present paper is published in the *Direction* to be rendered for the purpose of placing on record the decision taken by the Commission in the present case.

species of the genus *Dermanyssus* Dugès, 1834 was "indicated" by monotypy as *Dermanyssus avium* Dugès, 1834 (paragraph 7 above) and (2) the name *Dermanyssus avium* Dugès, 1834, is a junior objective synonym of the name *Acarus gallinae* de Geer, 1778. Accordingly it is the nominal species *Acarus gallinae* de Geer, 1778, and not the later-established objectively identical nominal species *Dermanyssus avium* Dugès, 1834, which under the above *Declaration* is the species to be cited as the type species of the genus *Dermanyssus* Dugès.

11. In addition to the rectification on the lines indicated above of the entry on the *Official List* relating to the generic name *Dermanyssus* Dugès certain other action is now required in order to comply with the Directives issued to the International Commission by the International Congresses of Zoology on the subject of the maintenance and promotion of the *Official Lists*. These include the addition (a) to the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* of the specific name *gallinae* de Geer, 1778, as published in the combination *Acarus gallinae*, (b) to the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* of the objectively invalid specific name *avium* Dugès, 1834, as published in the combination *Dermanyssus avium*, and (c) to the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* of the Invalid Emendation *Dermanissus* Kolenati, [1856] (*Paras. Chiropt.* : 19, 21, 50). Proposals on these subjects are submitted in the immediately following paragraph. In addition, there is the question whether any family-group-name problems arise in this case. This matter is being investigated and any necessary proposals will be submitted in due course.

12. The following recommendations are now submitted, namely that the International Commission should :—

- (1) substitute the following revised entry on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* in regard to the generic name *Dermanyssus* Dugès, 1834, in place of the entry in regard thereto made by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 104 :—

510. *Dermanyssus* Dugès, January 1834, *Ann. Sci. nat.*, Paris (Zool.) (2) 1 : 18 (gender : masculine) (type species, by monotypy and through *Declaration* 21 : *Acarus gallinae* de Geer, 1778, *Mém. Hist. Ins.* 7 : 111, pl. 6, figs. 13, 14)

- (2) place the under-mentioned specific name on the *Official List of Specific Names in Zoology* :—

gallinae de Geer, 1778, as published in the combination *Acarus gallinae* (specific name of type species of *Dermanyssus* Dugès, 1834)

- (3) place the under-mentioned specific name on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Specific Names in Zoology* :—

avium Dugès, 1834, as published in the combination *Dermanyssus avium* (a junior objective synonym of *gallinae* de Geer, 1778, as published in the combination *Acarus gallinae*, through the selection in paragraph 9 above of the same specimen to be the lectotype both of *Acarus gallinae* de Geer and of *Dermanyssus avium* Dugès)

- (4) place the under-mentioned generic name on the *Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology* :—

Dermanissus Kolenati, [1856] (an Invalid Emendation of *Dermanyssus* Dugès, 1834).

2. Registration of the present application : As soon as it was ascertained that the entry relating to the generic name *Dermanyssus* Dugès made on the *Official List* by the Ruling given in *Opinion* 104 was defective, the problem so involved was allotted the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 1132.

II. THE DECISION TAKEN BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

3. Issue of Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)21 : On 18th October 1957 a Voting Paper (V.P.(O.M.)(57)21) was issued in which the Members of the Commission were invited to vote either for, or against, “the proposal relating to the generic name *Dermanyssus* Dugès, 1834 (Class Arachnida, Order Acarina), as set out in paragraph 12 of the paper bearing the Registered Number Z.N.(S.) 1132 [i.e. in the paragraph numbered as above in the paper reproduced in the first paragraph of the present *Direction*] submitted by the Secretary simultaneously with the present Voting Paper”.

4. The Prescribed Voting Period : As the foregoing Voting Paper was issued under the One-Month Rule, the Prescribed Voting Period closed on 18th November 1957.

5. Particulars of the Voting on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)21 :
At the close of the Prescribed Voting Period, the state of the voting on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)21 was as follows :—

(a) *Affirmative Votes had been given by the following twenty-three (23) Commissioners (arranged in the order in which Votes were received) :*

Holthuis ; Mayr ; Bonnet ; Stoll ; Vokes ; Lemche ;
Bodenheimer ; Bradley (J.C.) ; Hering ; Hankó ;
Prantl ; Riley ; Dymond ; Esaki ; Tortonese ; Boschma ;
Hemming ; Mertens ; Cabrera ; Miller ; Kühnelt ;
Sylvester-Bradley ; Jaczewski ;

(b) *Negative Votes :*

None ;

(c) *On Leave of Absence, one (1) :*

Key ;

(d) *Voting Papers not returned, one (1) ;*

do Amaral.¹

6. Declaration of Result of Vote : On 19th November 1957, Mr. Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission, acting as Returning Officer for the Vote taken on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)21, signed a Certificate that the Votes cast were as set out in paragraph 5 above and declaring that the proposal submitted in the foregoing Voting Paper had been duly adopted and that the decision so taken was the decision of the International Commission in the matter aforesaid.

7. Preparation of the Ruling given in the present “ Direction ” :
On 14th December 1957 Mr. Hemming prepared the Ruling given in the present *Direction* and at the same time signed a

¹ After the close of The Prescribed Voting Period a late Affirmative Vote was received from Commissioner do Amaral.

Certificate that the terms of that Ruling were in complete accord with those of the proposal approved by the International Commission in its Vote on Voting Paper V.P.(O.M.)(57)21.

8. Original References : The following are the original references for the names placed on *Official Lists* and *Official Indexes* by the Ruling given in the present *Direction* :—

avium, *Dermanyssus*, Dugès, January 1834, *Ann. Sci. nat.*, Paris (Zool.) (2) 1 : 18

Dermanissus Kolenati, [1856], *Paras. Chiropt.* : 19, 21, 50

Dermanyssus Dugès, January 1834, *Ann. Sci. nat.*, Paris (Zool.) (2) 1 : 18

gallinae, *Acarus*, De Geer, 1778, *Mém. Hist. Ins.* 7 : 111, pl. 6, figs. 13, 14

9. Lectotype Selections : The following are the references for the lectotype selections specified in the Ruling given in the present *Direction* :—

For <i>Acarus gallinae</i> De Geer,	}	Hemming, 1958, <i>Ops. Decls. int.</i> <i>Comm. zool. Nomencl.</i> 1(F) : 57
1778		
For <i>Dermanyssus avium</i>	}	
Dugès, January 1834		

10. Family-Group-Name Aspect : The family-group-name aspect of the present case has been deferred, pending its examination in connection with the preparation for the consideration of the Commission of comprehensive proposals regarding the family-group-name problems involved in connection with the entries relating to the names of other genera of the Class Arachnida made on the *Official List of Generic Names in Zoology* in the period up to the end of 1936.

11. The prescribed procedures were duly complied with by the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature in dealing with the present case, and the present *Direction* is accordingly hereby rendered in the name of the said International Commission by the under-signed Francis Hemming, Secretary to the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature, in virtue of all and every the powers conferred upon him in that behalf.

12. The present *Direction* shall be known as *Direction* Ninety-Two (92) of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature.

DONE in London, this Fourteenth day of December, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Seven.

*Secretary to the International Commission
on Zoological Nomenclature*

FRANCIS HEMMING